

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-154 (Cancelled)

155. (Currently Amended) A method for selecting media, comprising the steps of:
storing data describing available media and storing data representing characteristics of media previously selected by a user, wherein said data representing characteristics are not ~~generated~~ input by the user;
performing a search of said available media for a correspondence to data representing said characteristics of media previously selected by said user; and
notifying said user of available media having characteristics corresponding to characteristics of previously selected media,
wherein said media comprises a media program.

156. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 155 wherein said media comprises television programs and said data describing available media comprises a channel guide list.

157. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 155, wherein said step of notifying said user includes the step of producing a display including a list of the available media meeting a predetermined correspondence criteria on a display screen for viewing by the user.

158. (Original) The method of claim 157, further comprising a step of altering the produced display by a user using a data entry device.

159. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 158, further comprising the step of selecting one of the available media items displayed on the list of available media.

160. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 155, wherein said ~~specific~~ data representing said characteristics of media ~~television programs~~ previously ~~watched~~ selected by said user ~~includes~~ comprises media theme information.

161. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 155, further comprising the step of displaying a list of available ~~television~~ programs, and receiving an input for recording a selected one of the available ~~television~~ programs.

162. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:
a controller for controlling delivery of a media program to a user; and
a processor for determining a correspondence between data representing characteristics of media within a set of available media programs with data representing characteristics of media previously presented to the user, wherein said data representing characteristics are not ~~generated~~ input by the user, and producing a signal dependent on said correspondence.

163. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 162, wherein said signal controls a recording of a media program.

164. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 162, wherein said signal produces a list of choices for a user through a human user interface.

165. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 162, wherein a user interaction with said system serves as an input to an adaptive algorithm of said processor for determining said correspondence.

166. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 162, wherein said at least one memory further stores information regarding at least two humans, wherein said signal is dependent on a defined set of humans.

167. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 162, wherein a presentation of media is restricted in dependence on a financial transaction.

168. (Currently Amended) A system for selecting media items, comprising:

(a) a user interface for receiving a selection of a media item from a user and for delivering a response to the selection;

(b) a processor for searching media items available for selection and for presenting a recommendation of at least one available media item to the user, based on a correspondence of

said selection and characteristics of available media items ~~generated~~ input independently of the user; and

(c) an accounting database for recording commercial transaction data relating to selections made by the user.

169. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 168, wherein said media items comprise television programs and said stored characteristics comprise a channel guide list, and television program-descriptive text accompanies said channel guide list.

170. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 168, wherein said recommendation presented by said processor produces a display including a list of the available media meeting a predetermined correspondence criteria on a display screen for viewing by the user.

171. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 168, wherein said characteristics comprise an identification of a program type.

172. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 168, wherein said processor controls a recording of a said media item.

173. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 168, wherein said database stores a history of selections made by a plurality of users.

174. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 155, further comprising the step of receiving media programming information as the data representing characteristics of media.

175. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 155, further comprising the step of automatically generating data representing characteristics of media.

176. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 155, wherein the data representing characteristics comprises a description of media.

177. (Currently Amended) A method for proposing media, comprising the steps of:
storing data representing characteristics of media previously selected by a respective user, wherein the data representing characteristics of media previously selected by the respective user are not ~~generated~~ input by that user;

determining a set of available media programs, the set being associated with data representing characteristics of members of the set of available media programs;

determining a correspondence between data representing a member of the set of available media programs and data representing ~~the~~ characteristics of media previously selected by the user; and

outputting, for the user, an identification of at least one member of the set of available media programs having characteristics corresponding to characteristics of previously selected media by that user.

178. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 177, wherein the identification of at least one member of the set of available media programs having characteristics corresponding to characteristics of previously selected media by that user is presented as a selectable object in a graphic user interface.

179. (Currently Amended) A method for presenting media, comprising the steps of:
storing data representing at least one parameter relating prior selections by a respective user, the at least one parameter not being ~~generated~~ input by that respective user;

determining a set of available media programs, each member of the set having at least one associated parameter;

determining a degree of correspondence of prior selections by the respective user and members of the set of available media programs based on at least the parameters relating to prior selections by the respective user and the associated parameters of members of the set of available media programs; and

outputting a reference to at least one member of the set of available media programs having an associated parameter based on at least a correspondence to the at least one parameter relating to prior selections by the respective user.

180. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 179, wherein the reference comprises an object in a graphic user interface.

181. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 179, wherein the reference comprises a selectable object in a graphic user interface.

182. (Currently Amended) A method for proposing media, comprising the steps of:

- storing data representing content-~~related~~ dependent characteristics of media previously selected by a respective user;
- determining a set of available media, the set being associated with data representing content-~~related~~ dependent characteristics of members of the set of available media;
- determining a correspondence between content-~~related~~ dependent characteristics of available media and content-~~related~~ dependent characteristics of media previously selected by the user; and
- outputting, for the user, an identification of at least one member of the set of available media having content-~~related~~ dependent characteristics corresponding to content-~~related~~ dependent characteristics of previously selected media by that user.

183. (New) A method for selecting media, comprising the steps of:

- receiving data describing a plurality of characteristics of available media;
- defining data representing a plurality of characteristics of media previously selected by a user;
- determining a relation between the available media and the media previously selected by the user, based on a respective plurality characteristics of the available media and media previously selected by the user; and
- producing an output in dependence on the determined relation.

184. (New) The method according to claim 183, wherein the available media comprises at least one available media program.

185. (New) The method according to claim 183, wherein the available media comprises at least one television program.

186. (New) The method according to claim 183, wherein the plurality of characteristics of the available media are derived from an electronic program guide.

187. (New) The method according to claim 183, wherein said output comprises a displayed list of hypertext entries representing available media, further comprising the step of receiving a selection of one of the hypertext entries.

188. (New) The method according to claim 183, wherein at least one of the plurality of characteristics of the available media comprises theme information.

189. (New) The method according to claim 183, further comprising the step of recording at least one of the available media in dependence on the output.

190. (New) The method according to claim 183, further comprising the step of restricting a use of available media in dependence on a financial transaction.

191. (New) The method according to claim 183, further comprising the step of financially accounting in dependence on the output.

192. (New) The method according to claim 183, further comprising the step of delivering an advertisement to the user in dependence on characteristics of media previously selected by the user.

193. (New) The method according to claim 183, further comprising the step of accounting for delivery of an advertisement to the user.